REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Final Office Action of August 21, 2007 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully considered. In the Final Action, the Examiner objected to claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16, and 18 for certain informalities; rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Higgs (4,675,953); and, claims 3, 5, 11, 12, 13 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higgs. Claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 15, 16, and 18 have been amended as suggested in the Final Action to correct informalities.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Final Action indicated that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of claims 6 (from which claim 7 depended) and claim 7. Claims 6 and 7 have been cancelled by this Amendment. As such, claim 1 now represents claim 7 if written in independent form and, as such, is in condition for allowance. Claims 2 – 5 and 8 – 20 depend from claim 1 and, as such, are also in condition for allowance.

Eighteen claims remain after this Amendment; one independent claim and seventeen dependent claims. Applicant previously paid for twenty claims, and three independent claims. Therefore, no fee is due with this Amendment.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicant believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action is most respectfully requested.

Submitted herewith is PTO/SB/81 Power of Attorney and Correspondence

Address Indication Form and PTO/SB/96 Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) for the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD ECKHARDT

M. Brad Lawrence

Registration No. 47,210 Attorney for Applicant

M. B. Lawrence Preti Flaherty One Beacon Street Suite 3400 Boston, MA 02108-3107

Phone:

617-226-3800

Fax.:

617-226-3801

e-mail:

blawrence@preti.com